GTR TORANA XU-1

Club Newsletter

October - November 2005

Volume 10 Issue 4

Trevor Peters and Phil Le Roy with their trophy for Runner up "Best Display" at the GREAT SOUTHERN SHOW'N'SHINE EYRE PARK, MIDDLETON BEACH, ALBANY 25th September, 2005

GTR TORANA XU-1
CAR CLUB

Committee 2005/2006

Executive Committee

President	Jo-anne Allchin
Secretary	Natalie Kais
Treasurer	Carlo Barone

Committee Members

Liaison Officer	Alan Bajada
Merchandise Officer	Kevin Burgess
Librarian	Jack Saban
Editor	Ken Parker
Property Officer	Trevor Peters
Show Organiser	Trevor Peters

Scrutineers
Mike Parker, Andrew Lansley, John Eade, Jack Saban

All correspondence to the club can be sent to:

GTR Torana XU-1 Car Club (Inc.)
PO Box 3038
Bassendean / Morley DC W.A. 6942
Phone: 0407 302 220 or E-mail: info@hamilton-sm.com.au

(Club meetings are usually held on the first Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm at East Victoria Park and Vietnam Veterans RSL Hall, 1 Fred Bell Parade, East Victoria Park WA 6101)

Disclaimer: The GTR TORANA XU1 CAR CLUB INC. does not accept responsibility for the truth or accuracy of any articles or advertisements appearing in this newsletter. It is incumbent on the reader to satisfy themselves as to the truth or accuracy of any of the articles or advertisements. All articles and advertisements are accepted in good faith by the club.

Email Addresses

Could all members who have an email address please email a.parker@bigpond.net.au Alison can then add you name to the list of members with email addresses. We will then send your newsletter by email as soon as it comes available.

We can also then send you speedily any urgent notices and news flashes.
Thanks
Alison and Ken Parker (Editors in partnership)

What's in the Library??

Jack Saban, our newly appointed Club Librarian, has very efficiently provided the following list of books and publications available in the Club Library.

Build your own XU-2 Torana	Classic Car Yearbook 2002	History of Torana From Viva to Victory
The Holden Heritage –Holden Heritage	The Holden Heritage –FJ – Commodore	The Holden Heritage – 50th Anniversary
Holden Torana GTR-XU1	Holden Torana 67-80	LX Torana Parts Catalogue
Manual of Motor Sports 1999	Torana LC Service Manual	Torana LJ Parts Catalogue
Torana Repair Manual 1968-79	Travellers Atlas	Weber Carburettors
After Market Replacement Parts Book 1 Book 2	Photo Albums x 2	Muscle Car Issues 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18
Track Stars Colouring Book	Street Machine Issues January 2003 February 2003 March 2003 April 2003	Perth Street Car Volume 12, No 4

CLUB MERCHANDISE

STUBBY HOLDERS WITH CLUB LOGO PRINTED ON THEM:

COLOURS: CHARCOAL GREY, LIME GREEN, BRIGHT ORANGE, DARK GREEN
PRICE: $5.00EA

STUBBY HOLDERS WITH TORANA PHOTO (OF MEMBERS CARS)

COLOURS: PASTEL ORANGE, PASTEL GREEN
PRICE: $6.00EA

CLUB POLO SHIRTS

AVAILABLE IN SIZES: MEDIUM, LARGE & EXTRA LARGE
PRICE: $25.00EA

KEY RINGS
PRICE: $12.00

PATCHES; CLUB LOGO
PRICE: $5.00

PEAKED CAPS; BLACK WITH LOGO

PRICE: $12.00

BEANIES; BLACK WITH LOGO

PRICE: $12.00

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ANY OF THESE ITEMS PLEASE CONTACT KEVIN BURGESS ON (08) 9453 9902 (MERCHANDISING OFFICER).

The Merchandising Officer would like to hear from any members interested in buying a GTR- XU-1 Bomber Jacket. Could they indicate their interest to Kevin. We also need some feed back as to what Logo to use ie. "GTR/XU-1" or "Giant Killer" or "When your hot your Hot" etc. Obviously the more Jackets ordered will determine the final price.

Fuel Tank Repair Service

Greg from Fuel Tank Repair Service in Brisbane, is now offering a service to XU1 owners to build a genuine XU1 fuel tank by joining the bottom half's of a 4 and 6 cylinder Torana tank to make an XU1 Fuel Tank. Knowing the rarity of these tanks, this is sure to be an attractive offer to those owners with a less than satisfactory tank.

The customer must supply both the donor tanks, and the cost is $500.00 to complete the work. Greg is contacting Torana clubs through-out Australia to allow as much coverage as possible.

Please contact Greg should you require any more information, or visit his web page.
Greg and Christine Stevens
10 Holland Street
NORTHGATE QLD 4013
AUSTRALIA
Ph + 61 7 3260 6197
Fax + 61 7 3256 6211
www.fueltankrepairservice.com

Life in the Army

A letter from a kid from Eromanga to Mum and Dad. (Eromanga is a small town west of Quilpie in the far south west of Queensland)

Dear Mum & Dad,

I am well. Hope youse are too. Tell me big brothers Doug and Phil that the Army is better than workin' on the *farm* - tell them to get in bloody quick smart before the jobs are all gone!

I wuz a bit slow in settling down at first, because ya don't hafta get outta bed until 6am. But I like sleeping in now, cuz all you gotta do before brekky is make ya bed and shine ya boots and clean ya uniform. No bloody cows to milk, no calves to feed, no feed to stack- nothin'!!

Blokes haz gotta shave though, but its not so bad, coz there's lots a hot water and even a light to see what ya doing!

At brekky ya get cereal, fruit and eggs but there's no kangaroo steaks or possum stew like wot Mum makes. You don't get fed again until noon, And by that time all the city boys are buggered because we've been on a 'route march' - geez its only just like walking to the windmill in the back paddock!!

This one will kill me brothers Doug and Phil with laughter. I keep getting medals *for* shootin' - dunno why. The bullseye is as big as a bloody possum's bum and it don't move and its not firing back at ya like the Johnsons did when our big scrubber bull got into their prize cows before the Ekka last year!

All ya gotta do is make yourself comfortable and hit the target – it's a piece of piss!! You don't even load your own cartridges - they comes in little boxes and ya don't have to steady yourself against the rollbar of the roo shooting truck when you reload!

Sometimes ya gotta wrestle with the city boys and I gotta be real careful coz they break easy - it's not like fighting with Doug and Phil and Jack and Boori and Steve and Muzza all at once like we do at home after the muster.

Turns out I'm not a bad boxer either and it looks like I'm the best the platoon's got, and I've only been beaten by this one bloke from the Engineers - he's 6 foot 5 and 15 stone and three pickhandles across the shoulders and as ya know I'm only 5 foot 7 and eight stone wringin'
wet, but I fought him till the other blokes carried me off to the boozer.

I can't complain about the Army - tell the boys to get in quick before word gets around how bloody good it is.

Your loving daughter,
Jill

Is this a dream, or is this a report from our fearless leader SMOKIN JO.

I always seem to agonise over what I am going to write, what words to choose, and will it have any effect.
The last report that went to print yielded results that meetings have not. Thanks to Joe Ariti for offering to paint the trailer. Hopefully by early next year the trailer will be sand blasted, primed and painted, ready for some graphics. Our liaison officer is overseeing the project with assistance from Ray Foggerdy, Phil Le Roy and Trevor Peters. The beauty of the written word is that you can change, alter and delete, or add at will till you think its right. Unlike the foot in the mouth fever as I spoke without thinking at the last meeting. When I said I would like the trailer to be covered in graphics, I meant some air brushing, to give it a more style, but guess what ?. Its not what I want, its what you members want. Ditto the new jackets that Phil Le Roy wants, as he envies our unique Bathurst commemorative coats. I suggested "Giant Killers" as a logo over the right breast pocket, but I've changed my mind now and have decided that 'Torana the Great' would look and sound better. But hey! Have it your way! Just don't whinge afterwards about this that and the other.

Disclaimers, ain't they wonderful things! Carlo who also had a key to the building read the newsletter of April /May/ June which gave a meeting date a week later in November. Lucky for me, he was at his folks place when I called and asked him if he had forgotten the meeting, and that we have changed venues and date times. Maybe if he had read the September issue? or double checked with someone? We had raced back Geraldton that day and so had nothing prepared for the meeting and all I could think about was whether the weather would be good to start the ten loads of washing I had ahead.

How lucky we are to have Natalie as secretary, with agenda and everything organised. It sure makes running a club relatively easy. Poor Jack had overstretched himself that day and had to leave early, leaving me to run the library again. Trevor has not completed his homework yet, but will get an extension from the teacher.
I doubt if anyone has written a story for Ken and Alison, I am prepared for surprises. Quick whip around kept the treasurer happy, seeing as we needed to spend $10 on a minor account.

We missed out on quite a few car shows and from all reports the only one who copped really shocking weather was the All Ford Day.
Car show calendar rolls on. The 4WD and Fishing show last weekend had Big Al in a dreamscape of solar panels, freezers and generators, while in a week or two Narrogin Revheads is on. Hopefully the weather will be red hot for that. I am still dreaming of going to Canberra for the Summer Nats, not next year, maybe when I am older.

Nothing definite has been organised for the Christmas gathering. Some members will fret over this and others couldn't care less. Will those that fret please organise something as Trevor needs and outlet for his legendary free raffles and those of us who are on concessional licensing need to take their cars out. Those who couldn't care less are welcome to attend.

We are striving to organise a run down to maybe Mandurah, in January to meet up with members from down south. Don't forget Motorvation on the 14th – 15th January always a hot show.

I have now caught up with reading all the newsletters from the various clubs and one item really started to rev my brain up. I had better be careful about putting it to print in case it gets pinched, the item not the brain, stay tuned.

So what about next year? One outing I really enjoyed was the Shed crawl, how about another. Phil Le Roy has put a lot of energy and research into suggestions, check them out.

Six months in the chair have sped by in a blur. (any demerit points?) Thanks for a great support committee and fantastic members, wouldn't be a member of any other car club (except OKA) for quids. Looking forward to the next six months, should be great.

Lets not forget the Marque that is our common interest, the GTR and the XU-1 cars, Torana the great, Giant Killer, When your Hot your Hot , and RARNA, where does that come from?

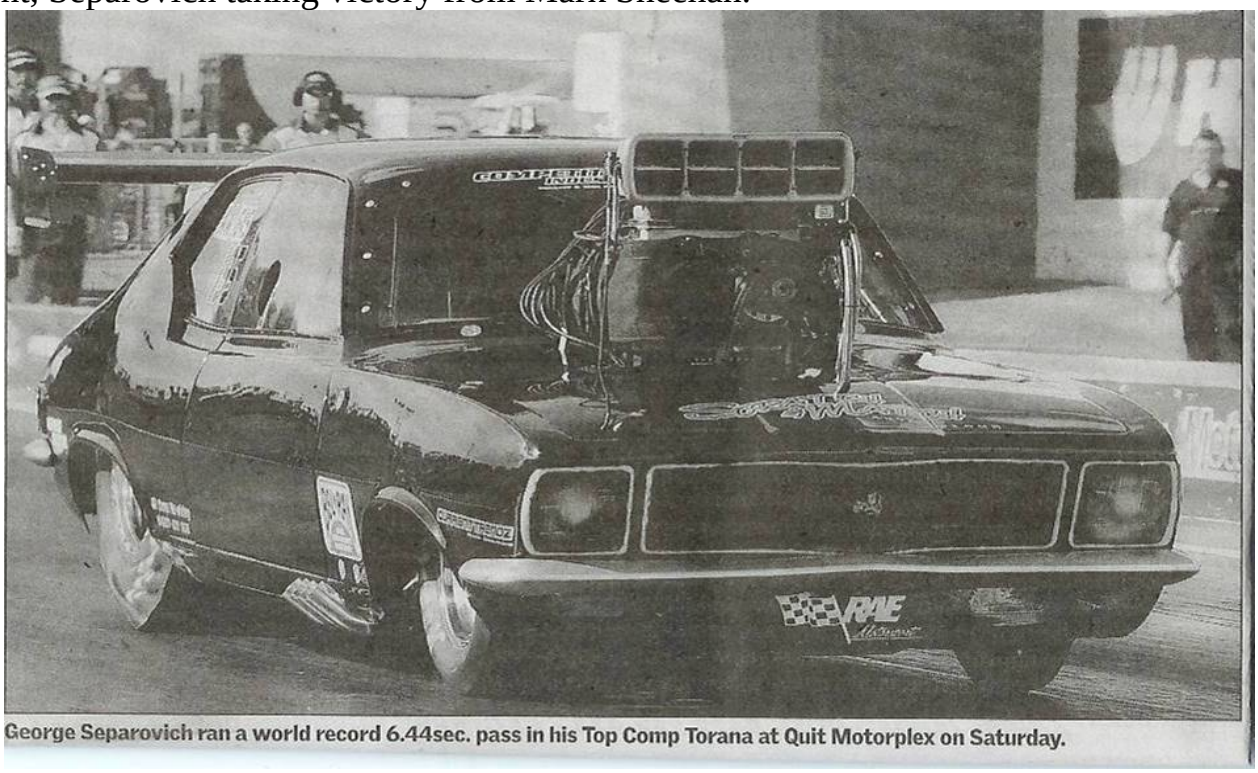
Jo President
Footnote
Should Big Al be named Nearly Big Al

1. Nearly made the truck fly
2. Nearly burnt the truck out
3. Nearly drowned the under-seat storage in beer.

Nearly couldn't start the truck after 3 days in the caravan park (despite having 3 batteries)

Supercharged World Record

If you are a purist XU-1 Torana lover then read no further, but for those interested in some impure thoughts read on.
George Separovich recently made all the headlines at the opening drag racing event at Quit Motorplex with his supercharged Torana, making a 6.44 second pass.
The run made Separovich's the fastest Torana in the world, surpassing the previous record of 6.46 seconds held by Grant O'Rourke. All this came on the way to winning the event, Separovich taking victory from Mark Sheehan.



George Separovich ran a world record 6.44sec. pass in his Top Comp Torana at Quit Motorplex on Saturday.

After wrestling the car all the way down the track with the front wheels lifting into the air on gear changes, Separovich said there was still more to come from the car.
(West Australian October 26th, 2005)

Best Display Trophy from Albany Show & Shine

New President's Honour Board

GREAT SOUTHERN SHOW'N'SHINE EYRE PARK, MIDDLETON BEACH, ALBANY

Phil and I decided that we would make a good showing for the Albany car show. We left my place early Saturday arvo. It took around four and a half hours to get to the township of Albany – the cars were absolutely perfect all the way there and back – testimony to these tough little cars of ours, and the hours of work spent making sure that they are absolutely perfect.

We got into the township of Albany in what seems like no time at all. The first thing we had to do was find some accommodation. We were cruising down the main drag in Albany, when we stumbled upon a pile of hot rods around a clubroom … so naturally, we stopped and had a chat with the guys there, who turned out to be the organisers and members of the car show. They invited us in, and we shared a few hot dogs and Bundy's. It turns out that the local Club had just had a cruise through town and were relaxing after the event. They pointed us in the direction of a local motel and we checked in late that afternoon at the Dog Rock Motor Inn. Phil and I then pushed off to the local Italian restaurant for a good spaghetti feed, had a vino and a couple of Bundy's, followed by a few more at our motel room … Phil had booked a room for himself, as my reputation for "chainsawing" (snoring) in the middle of the night preceded me.

Next morning we went down to the venue at Middleton Beach to set up our display. Phil, as usual, was straight into the hard work and started setting up the enviro-shade and where he wanted the cars to be situated. Tim Hunter and his daughter joined in and helped us all to get things perfect. Our display looked really good. Thanks to Phil, Tim (and Tim's daughter – sorry, I can't remember your name) for all of your help in putting together such a good display. Tim Hunter (Denmark) brought along both of his LJ XU-1s, Eddie (Perth) also brought along his fully restored LJ XU-1, and as an added bonus, one of the organisers, Vinnie, whose brother Rocky put his LC GTR in our display as well

Phil and I spent most of the day wandering around and checking out the other displays which included Chevvys, Ferraris, old Holdens, Hot Rods and Customs.

We turned up at the trophy presentations later that afternoon and admired the wide range of lovely trophies that the event organisers had on display. There was a tie for the winner of the "Best Display", and after a bit of discussion between the organisers, it was decided that the runner-up trophy would be presented to our Club. Phil and I took some photos, and then went back to pack up our display.

Prior to leaving, we had a quick meal in Albany (at Maccas) and then headed for home. We had a great weekend and look forward to going back again next year. Big thanks go to the organisers of the event (Vinnie, Kevin and Russell), they made us feel really welcome.
After everything was organised, we had a good look around at the other displays. Also, during our wanderings of the other displays, was a "sound-off" competition which was won by some dude had spent $58,000 on his stereo system! To say that it was mind blowing would be an understatement.
Trevor Peters.

Special thanks to Peters Security for paying for and supplying the plaques for the President's Board.

You may not be aware, but a couple of weeks ago our club put together a display for the Fred Bell Centre (where we hold our meetings), and Natalie, Mike Parker, Phil Le Roy and myself put our cars on display. Natalie won the award for Best Club Car, and received a cheque for $20 and a laminated photo of her car.
Trevor Peters

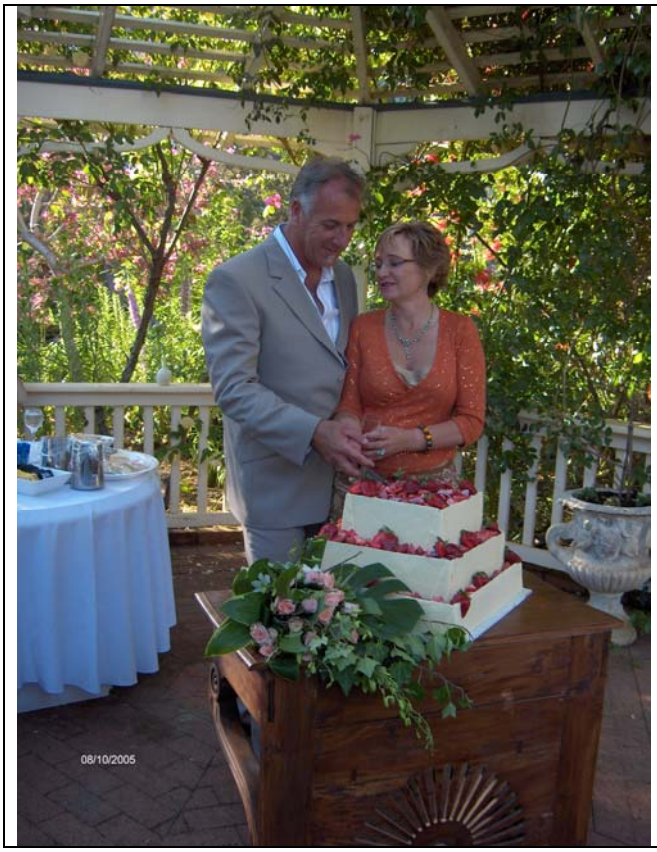
Big Al's Bathurst Burnout by Smokin' Joe

Soaring temperatures and screaming winds drove us from the Great Sandy Desert on Friday and Saturday, so more by accident than by design we arrived at the 80 Mile Beach Caravan Park on Saturday afternoon and to my delight, an air-conditioned, TV/internet room. After a quick swim we watched the shoot out and hooked up with another (Holden) Bathurst enthusiast Troy.
Reserving our seats for an 8am start on Saturday, we went through the caravan park routine of shower, stroll and early tea and early to bed. (What is it with caravan parks that people are tucked up and asleep by 9pm.)
Rising early on Sunday, I cooked breakfast, tidy up and at 8am it was already about 25'C. Turning on the TV it was great to see that it was freezing in Bathurst, but thankfully not raining. We settled into a routine of dashing outside during the commercial breaks to warm up and make phone calls on the pay phone, and thanks Trevor for putting me on hold, while you took another call.

From memory, it was fairly uneventful up until 10:30am, the usual 50 cent piece mechanical failure and maybe a minor crash or two. Time for morning tea, so I suggested to Big Al, how about a coffee? I can buy one at the shop next door. 'NO NO' he said 'I'll go to the truck and make one" he said, "I won't be long". After about half an hour Troy remarked that 'Al must be grinding the coffee beans one by one".
Nah I said, I bet ya $100 he's got chatting to a fellow 4wd owner comparing rigs or something. After an hour Big Al did return with a coffee and biscuit. He had missed out on some racing action, so I filled him in on the details. So, what took an hour to make coffee? 'Yes' he said, as I mentally collected my $100 bet. "And you rechecked the engine oil level.' 'Yes' he said, 'Plus I had a drama.' Drama? tyre pressure? 'Nup. I will yell you next ad break.' Ok. So next ad break I asked about his drama. A couple of scenarios came up negative, but. 'So you had a fire came up positive.' Great I thought, he has burnt the truck down. Turned out that he had pushed aside rather than remove the hand towel that cushions the gas cook top and while he was comparing communication setups with the 4wd couple the hand towel had started to smolder from radiant heat and was close to fully igniting when he wandered back to the truck [The kettle had almost boiled dry too].When he detected a burning smell. Hmm he thought, something is burning. Shit, its my truck! So, he tidied up the disaster and made a coffee and promptly made another disaster when he rooted around under the seat and removed some beer. But that's another story.
The rest of the Bathurst race was drama after drama. The bold and beautiful couldn't come up with story lines that unfolded during the race. Craig Lowndes with mechanical trouble and then a wheel through the windscreen, [that topped the roo incident of last year) pushing out rear and front windscreens and to the driver's credit, finished the race and not last by a long shot. After that crashes and smashes kept the recovery crews and the safety car in demand. Poor Marcus and his co-driver, Mum forgot to remind him to put his balaclava on, and I argue now with all fans of the blue oval that if his co-driver and him didn't have to do those drive through penalties he would not have been where he was when that racing incident happened with Murphy. And how was the pile up from that?!!. Soap opera script stuff – verbal exchange that followed. Stealth, Kevin Burgess's favorite word. Scaiffe and Kelly won, the car looking in show room condition.

Thanks to Phil Le Roy for hosting the Bathurst Day in Perth this year. For those who didn't make it you missed out on a big one. Hopefully somebody with a big one will offer to host it next year.

The race over, Al and I went for a swim as it was quite hot by then, (30'c) then the routine of a caravan park, early shower, early tea and early bed. 80 Mile Beach the next day was splashed on the news with a big report of a shark attack, which turned out to be a swimmer standing on a stingray. We weren't there, by that time we were having a swim at Barn Hill Station/Stay caravan park and planning a game of lawn bowls, Yes lawn bowls folks. One may as well embrace the caravan park protocol, one day we will be old and need that sporting skill. Well, I can laugh about the truck burning thing now just like Al can laugh about sending the truck flying over a wash away, good thing he got the springs re-conditioned.



Congratulations to Phil and Jude on their wedding on Saturday 12th November at the Quatre Saisons, Heritage Rose Garden in Glen Forrest. The club wishes them all the best for their future together

UP AND COMING EVENTS:

DATE	EVENT AND DETAILS
7/12/2005	Club Meeting – RSL Hall Bentley
14/15 Jan 2006	Motorvation – Motorplex Kwinana Beach
19th Feb, 2006 Sunday	Northam Vintage Swapmeet – Henry Street Oval
16th April, 2006 Sunday	Aussie Cars in the Loop – Station Street, Yarloop